

Topics: Easter  
by Adrian Tennant

### LEAD-IN

Look at the word cloud below. Do you know what the words mean? What other things do you associate with Easter?

CROSS LENT CHOCOLATE  
SPRING EGGS  
PANCAKES  
BUNNY FRIDAY  
CELEBRATION

### READING 1: TITLES

You are going to read four texts about Easter.  
Look at the titles and try to guess what each text is about.

1. Delicious pancakes
2. Egg-citing times!
3. Peculiar traditions
4. Where it's Easter all year round

## READING 2: EASTER TEXTS

a. Match the titles from the previous exercise to the texts below.

A.

### WELCOME TO RAPA NUI, THE NAVAL OF THE WORLD!

Rapa Nui is also known as Easter Island because the first time European sailors saw it was on Easter Day in 1722. It is more than 3,000 kilometres from the next nearest landmass. This makes it one of the most remote tourist destinations in the world! But flying to Rapa Nui from Chile is simple. Marvel at the impressive stone Moai standing along the coast looking out to sea and admire the fascinating rock carvings. We guarantee you'll have an experience you will remember for the rest of your life.

B. **Ingredients:**

110g plain flour  
pinch of salt  
2 eggs  
200ml milk  
75ml water  
50g butter

**To serve:**

lemon juice  
sugar

**Method:**

1. Sift the flour and salt into a bowl.
2. Make a 'well' in the flour and break the two eggs into it.
3. Mix and then gradually add the milk and water.
4. Keep mixing until all of the liquid is used.
5. Melt the butter in a saucepan and add to the mixture so that the batter is rich and smooth.
6. Heat a small amount of butter in a frying pan. Then add enough batter to cover the bottom of the pan and fry.
7. Serve hot with lemon juice and sugar.

C.



Don't just stuff your face with chocolate ones – come and join us for a fun packed day for all the family.

The activities include:

**EGG PAINTING** – decorate your own eggs and brighten up your dining table displays.

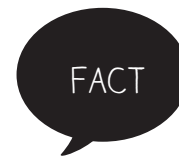
**EGG HUNT** – find the hidden eggs – prizes for the team that finds the most.

**EGG ROLLING** – yes, rolling! Roll your egg down the hill; the first to the bottom wins – a smashing time for all!

**Middleton Manor House**  
**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March**  
**11am-5pm**



D.



*What do rabbits – or, more precisely, bunnies – have to do with Easter? Well, it seems that they are a symbol of fertility and life. Easter is in the springtime, which is also the time when new life begins – flowers bloom, leaves appear on trees and lambs are born in the fields. There is one very odd tradition in parts of the US, where people make nests for the rabbits (or hares) so they can lay eggs! Apparently, the tradition originated in Germany and was taken across by immigrants.*

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### b. Read the texts again and answer these questions.

#### Text A:

1. What's another name for Rapa Nui?
2. Why isn't it easy to visit Rapa Nui?
3. What would tourists do there?

#### Text B:

1. How much liquid (in total) is used in the recipe?
2. What makes the pancake mixture 'rich'?
3. When do you add the lemon juice?

#### Text C:

1. What does the writer not want you to do at Easter?
2. Which activity involves group participation?

#### Text D:

1. What is the connection between rabbits and Easter?
2. Why does the writer use the words *one very odd tradition*?

## WORKING WITH THE LANGUAGE

### Focus: Language use

Look at these sentences from the texts. What do the underlined words refer to?

1. Make a 'well' in the flour and break the two eggs into it.
2. Don't just stuff your face with chocolate ones - ...
3. Egg hunt – find the hidden eggs – prizes for the team that finds the most.
4. Roll your egg down the hill; the first to the bottom wins - ...
5. What do rabbits – or, more precisely, bunnies – have to do with Easter? Well, it seems that they are a symbol of fertility and life.

## WORKING WITH VOCABULARY

### Focus: Meaning

Find words or phrases in the texts that match the definitions below.

1. very good, large or showing a lot of skill so you admire it
2. to promise that something will happen
3. a small amount of something that you can hold between your finger and thumb

4. to pour a dry substance through a sieve to remove any large pieces
5. completely even with no lumps
6. to eat too much food until you are not hungry or feel ill
7. great, very good or enjoyable
8. exactly
9. to begin to exist, come from or appear for the first time
10. people who come to live in a country from another country

## LISTENING

### Focus: Meaning

- a. Listen to a woman speaking about Easter. Which activities or traditions from the Reading 2: Easter texts exercise does she mention? What other things does she do at Easter?

- b. Listen again. Are these sentences true (T), false (F) or not given (NG)?

1. Easter is important for the woman and her family because they are Christians.
2. She eats lots of chocolate on Shrove Tuesday.
3. She eats hot cross buns on Good Friday.
4. She was once ill because she ate too much chocolate.
5. She lives in Germany.

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### SPEAKING

Discuss the questions below in groups.

1. Do you celebrate Easter? If yes, what do you do?
2. Which of the traditions from texts B, C and D do you think sound interesting? Why?
3. Do you observe Lent? If so, what do you give up and why? If you don't, what do you think you would give up for the 40 days of Lent? Do you think this would be difficult to do?
4. Are there any unusual traditions connected to Easter, or another festival period, that you know about? What are they?
5. Have you heard about Easter Island before? Would you like to go there? Why? Why not?

### PROJECT

Think of an important festival in your country and design an information leaflet to give to tourists with information about some important things connected to the festival. You might want to include things like food, symbols or other traditions.